GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4563
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2000
ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR SCIENCE
C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the allocation made for Science and Technology sector in India is lower than the Industrialised nations of the world; and

(b) if so, the comparative figures in this regard for the current year ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a) Yes Sir. Comparative statistics of Research and Development (R&D) expenditure in different countries is maintained as a percentage of Gross National Product (GNP). This percentage for India is 0.66 during 1996-97 which varies from 1 to 4% for industrialised nations. However, the Plan allocations for Science and Technology (S&T) sector in the country has been steadily increasing for different Five Year Plan periods. The Plan allocations made for S&T sector has risen from Rs.8264 crores for Seventh Plan to Rs.25,529 crores for Ninth Plan.

(b) A comparative figures based on UNESCO Statistical Yearbook, 1999 comprising the data on R&D expenditure as percentage of GNP for some industrialised countries are given below:

Country	Year	R&D Expenditure as % of GNP